

Message Text

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SUBJECT: EX-KING CONSTANTINE'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON

REF: (A) STATE 121040, (B) STATE 119569

1. MEMBER OF SEN. PELL'S STAFF INFORMED DEPT THAT IN HIS ESTIMATION MAY 11 LUNCH IN HONOR OF EX-KING CONSTANTINE, HOSTED BY SEN. PELL WENT EXCEEDINGLY WELL. SENATORS CHURCH, CHAFFEE, JAVITS, MATHIAS, SARBANES, CRANSTON AND REP BRADEMAS ALSO ATTENDED.

2. ACCORDING TO STAFF MEMBER, MUCH OF THE LUNCHEON WAS MONOPOLIZED BY DEBATE BETWEEN BRADEMAS AND CHURCH ON THE MERITS OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN PROPOSALS. THE EX-KING SPOKE OUT STRONGLY IN OPPOSITION TO
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THE LIFTING OF THE TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO, STATING THAT IT WOULD FURTHER FUEL GROWING ANTI-AMERICANISM IN GREECE AND SEVERELY AFFECT US-GREEK RELATIONS.

3. THE EX-KING STATED THAT IF HE EVER RETURNED TO GREECE-- AND HE COULD ENVISION CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THAT COULD OCCUR -- IT WOULD BE HIS INTENTION TO CALL FOR A REFEREN-

DUM ON THE RESTORATION OF THE MONARCHY. HE WOULD DO SO TO ENSURE THAT HE WOULD NOT BE DEPENDENT POLITICALLY ON A

GROUP OR FACTION WHICH WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR CALLING HIM BACK TO GREECE. WITH REGARD TO THE REFERENDUM OF DEC 1974, HE LAMENTED THE FACT THAT HE HAD NOT BEEN PERMITTED TO RETURN TO GREECE PRIOR TO THE REFERENDUM TO SPEAK OUT ON THE ISSUE. HE INDICATED SATISFACTION THAT THE FORCES FAVORING RETENTION OF THE MONARCHY HAD WON 31 PERCENT OF THE VOTE.

4. THE EX-KING ALSO BELIEVES THAT THE PRESENT GREEK GOVERNMENT SHOULD HOLD A REFERENDUM ON GREECE'S ENTRY INTO THE EC-9. UP TO THIS POINT, HE BELIEVES THE ORDINARY CITIZEN HAS BEEN APPRISED OF ONLY THE ADVANTAGES OF ENTRY IN VERY GENERAL TERMS AND THE GOVERNMENT HAS FAILED TO POINT OUT THE DISADVANTAGES WHICH WILL FLOW FROM FULL MEMBERSHIP IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

5. CONSTANTINE SAID THAT ANDREAS PAPANDREOU HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVELY CURRYING SUPPORT WITHIN THE GREEK MILITARY, AND WITH SOME SUCCESS. HE HAS BEEN APPEALING TO THE NATIONALISTIC INSTINCTS WHICH ARE SO PREVALENT AMONG THE MILITARY AND CONTINUES TO HAMMER ON THE THEME THAT GREECE DID NOT REACT WITH STRENGTH DURING THE SISMIC SITUATION AND WAS CONSEQUENTLY HUMILIATED. THE EX-KING ALSO RAISED THE SUB-

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JECT OF GREEK MILITARIZATION OF THE AEGEAN ISLANDS AND STATED IT HAD BEEN AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY BECAUSE OF TURKISH ACTIONS IN CYPRUS AND THE FORMATION OF THE TURKISH AEGEAN ARMY.

6. DEPTOFFS AT SFRC HEARING MAY 11 RESISTED SFRC STAFF SUGGESTION THAT THEY GIVE UP THEIR FRONT-ROW SEATS IN FAVOR OF EX-KING POINTING OUT THAT THIS WOULD BE SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE MISUNDERSTANDING. SFRC STAFF AGREED AND THUS ARRANGED FOR EX-KING TO BE SEATED TOWARD REAR OF HEARING ROOM WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC.

7. THE EX-KING DEPARTED THE EVENING MAY 11 FOR NEW YORK. NO FURTHER DETAILS OF HIS U.S. SCHEDULE ARE AVAILABLE TO DEPT. VANCE

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